

..so they took the \$1,000 and bought a Bond

TORRANCE HERALD

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Columbia Relief Association Buys \$4,000 in Bonds

Following the patriotic plan—Buy What Bonds You Can—and setting the pace for other organizations, the Columbia Steel Employees Relief Association of 1,300 members voted Saturday morning to invest \$4,000 of their \$11,000 reserve fund in "Offense Bonds," according to their president, Nell McConlogue.

9 Questions Will be Asked Registrants By Selective Service

Nine simple questions will be asked California men who must register Feb. 14-16 for military service under the provisions of the Selective Service Act. While every effort will be made to conclude California's registration in record time, all registrants will be given sufficient time to respond properly to registration questions. Registrants will not be given questionnaires at the time of registration nor will they then be required to undergo any physical examination.

Whistle Chorus Raid Signal to be Tried Here

By linking all five major industrial plant whistles into a united signal, Police Chief John Stroh, director of Civilian Defense, believes he has solved the problem of an audible air raid alert and blackout notice that will cover all 18 square miles of Torrance.

Four Bids on Fire Station Opened by City Council

Four bids on the reconstruction of the No. 14 earthquake damaged central fire station on Cravens ave. were opened at city council meeting Tuesday night and were referred to the council as a whole, city attorney and city engineer for a report at the next regular session.

Confident their organization would not need it and well aware that Uncle Sam does, the Columbia Steel Employees Hospitalization Plan leaders took \$1,000 out of their reserve fund late last week and purchased a Defense Bond. Left to right: J. Forbes Anderson, chairman of the

hospitalization plan; James Neish, vice-chairman; George Schmid, treasurer, receiving the Defense Bond from Dean Sears, manager of the Torrance branch of the Bank of America, and J. H. Hanks, secretary and originator of hospitalization plan.

School Janitor Held For Molesting Child

How a trusted school janitor allegedly subjected a nine-year-old girl to indecent advances was told by the child herself in the Torrance city courtroom Tuesday afternoon. Her harrowing testimony resulted in John Sokolis, 47, Los Angeles, janitor at the Fern avenue school for many years, being held to answer a criminal charge before Superior court.

401 Aliens Register At P. O.

A total of 401 applications were received at Torrance postoffice for certificates of identification from alien Japanese last week, according to Postmaster Earl Conner. This figure includes a few Italian and German nationals, he said.

His \$1,000 bail, which he put up following his arrest last Thursday, was reaffirmed by Judge Elmo Morris, who was sitting for Judge John Shidler, and Sokolis will have his arraignment before the Superior court in department 41, Feb. 26 at 9:30 a. m.

Gas Mask List Doesn't Include Torrance as Yet

Altho gas masks for every man, woman and child in the Los Angeles metropolitan area were promised yesterday by Jack Helms of San Francisco, regional director of the Office of Civilian Defense, no mention was made of Torrance in the itemized list of cities scheduled to get this protection.

Who Must Register and Where Locally

Every male resident of California not previously registered under Selective Service who has attained his 20th birthday on or before Dec. 31, 1941, and who has not attained his 45th birthday on or before Feb. 16, 1942, must register between 7 a. m. and 9 p. m. on one of the registration days of Feb. 14, 15 or 16. In other words, all unregistered men who were born between Feb. 17, 1897, and Dec. 31, 1921, must register at one of the following local places.

- Selective Service Headquarters, 1337 E. Prado, Torrance. Torrance Civic Auditorium, El Prado and Cravens ave. Columbia Steel Company, Torrance. National Supply Company, 2439 Park st., Walthers. Walthers Recreation Center, 2439 Park st., Walthers. Perry School, 18091 Prairie ave., North Torrance. Veterans hall, Lomita. Legion hall, 1238 Gardena blvd., Gardena. City Hall, 10 Malaga Cove, Palms Verdes Estates.

Guard Unit Has Headquarters

Company H of the California State Guard—Torrance and Lomita's own outfit—is now equipped with its own headquarters in the shape of a small frame building which has been moved in on the Torrance city park baseball diamond.

The registration was completed here last Saturday, although a few aliens were accommodated Sunday and Monday. Included in the registrants were aliens living as far away as San Fernando and Riverside. Registered mail deliveries of their identification booklets is expected within a month.

Courtroom is Cleared

Sokolis is married and the father of three children. At one time during her testimony, the little girl was on the verge of tears as she described the janitor's indecent actions, but, assisted by the carefully phrased questions asked by Deputy District Attorney Garr, she recovered composure and related the story of preliminary advances to her on the two days preceding his asserted criminal molestation. This occurred last Wednesday afternoon as the little girl was about to leave school. The janitor was arrested at his home in Los Angeles late Thursday.

Helms, in a communication to Mayor Bowron, said auxiliary fire fighting equipment, emergency medical supplies and other material required in air-raid protection also will be supplied to Torrance.

Motor Mechanics Class to Open Here Feb. 18

A motor mechanics course for men and women will start next Wednesday evening, Feb. 18, at 6:15 at the high school. Sponsored by the Red Cross Motor and Ambulance Corps, this instruction will be free to anyone who holds a Standard First Aid card or who is now attending a Standard First Aid class. At least 30 must enroll in order to form the class.

Need 77 More Wardens Here

"Are there 77 men in Torrance who can spare the time to give air raid warden service for the duration—a service that will be of inestimable value in case of an emergency?" asked Chief Warden Jack Hallanger today.

Other allocations were listed as follows: Type A—baby respirator; B—Mickey House (child); CS—small child; CM—adult (small); CL—adult (universal); D—duty mask.

FBI Nabs Jap Spy Suspect in P.V.

12 Others Held After Shoreline Area is Combed

A thorough combing of the shoreline area from Redondo Beach, thru Torrance and Hollywood Riviera to Point Vicente in Palos Verdes Estates by F. B. I. agents, deputy sheriffs and Los Angeles detectives of the subsversive squad last Saturday resulted in the detention of about a dozen Japanese truck farmers and the arrest of Chozo Tsubouchi, 58, on suspicion of espionage.

Among articles seized by the raiding officers were powerful flashlights, a large camera lens, pictures and maps. In one Japanese home the agents found a picture of an American tank which the owner admitted making in Los Angeles harbor.

Child Tells Mother "I told him I had to go right home and practice," the child said. "But he took me by the hand and led me down the dark stairs."

Generator Ready for Emergency

A bomb from an enemy plane would have to hit a very particular spot to put the Torrance hospital or civic center building's emergency lighting system out of action. A generating set, driven by an automobile engine equipped with a tractor radiator and mounted on a compact trailer chassis, was delivered late last week and stored away for emergency use.

Censorship Silences S. A. Whiting on War Experiences in Pacific

His strict observance of wartime censorship is depriving friends and acquaintances of S. A. Whiting of 1719 Arlington ave., of some interesting first-hand reports of the conflict in the Pacific. Whiting returned home Feb. 3 from Johnston Island, a "pimple on the Pacific," where he was employed as an electrician on a naval construction project.

Chain Letters to Promote Defense Stamps Forbidden

"If you get any 'chain letters' thru the mail or arrive at the idea of starting one to promote the sale of Defense Bonds or stamps—don't do it! These sending such matter thru the mails are violating postal fraud and lottery statutes. Notices are served up on persons participating in such schemes whose names come to the attention of the Postoffice department requiring them to show cause why fraud orders should not be issued against them. Such orders forbid delivery of any mail to the persons named therein.

CITY ELECTION RACE STARTS HERE FRIDAY

Beginning tomorrow, Feb. 13, nomination petitions for candidates who intend to campaign for the four municipal offices up for election April 14 will be available at the city hall, City Clerk A. H. Bartlett said today. The offices to be filled by vote of Torrance electors in two months are: city clerk, now held by Mrs. Harriett Leach, and the two city councilmen's seats now occupied by James Hitchcock and Kenneth H. Kall.

Generator Ready for Emergency

"I heard about the earthquake here in Torrance the same day it occurred," Whiting said. "We received news broadcasts every night before the outdoor movie show started."

HONOR BRIDE-GROOM

Mr. and Mrs. J. O'Toole entertained as their weekend guests, William Millas, a marine stationed at San Diego, and his bride of two months.

"We have arranged with National Supply, Columbia Steel, General Petroleum, Ideco and Hydrex to use their whistles and if the test Friday and possibly Saturday noons proves successful, we will probably install a special telephone hookup to connect the plants for air raid alarms," he said.

So listen for the TEST signal—a two-minute flashing chorus of whistles, tomorrow (Friday) noon and possibly Saturday noon, followed 10 minutes later by the regular one-minute continuous signal that indicates the "all clear."

Air Raid Alert Brings Control Leaders to Post

Within a few minutes after the "blue" air raid alert report was received by police here last Friday night at 11:54 o'clock, the Civilian Defense Control Board was ready to swing into action with all departments ready to function.

The "blue" alert skipped the "yellow" warning entirely and no reason was given by the Fourth Interceptor Command for this or the reason for the secondary alert. The "all clear" signal was received at 1:04 a. m. Saturday morning without the "red" or final raid signal being flashed anywhere in the metropolitan district.

Police Chief John Stroh was elated over the response to personnel composing the Control Board organization. Ten out of the 12 registered telephone operators reported and all Civilian Defense units were represented by leaders who gathered at the control center in the Water Department building on El Prado ready to direct any defense operations here.

Auxiliary police, auxiliary firemen and medical forces were not summoned by the Civilian Defense directors although they were represented by their control leaders at the directing center. All regular police officers were called into service during the duration of the alert, however. Radio stations were not ordered off the air.

HOLIDAY TODAY

Today was a school holiday in honor of Lincoln's birthday. Schools will also observe Washington's birthday (Feb. 22) on Monday, Feb. 23, by remaining closed.

RECOVERING

Mrs. L. F. Stephenson is convalescing from a recent illness.

Auxiliary Firemen Ready for Action

When some 35 men—and there should be 110 of them—complete a training program here within the next month or so, Torrance will be a safer place insofar as fire protection is concerned. Those men are Auxiliary Firemen attached to the local Civilian Defense organization.

In response to a question by J. E. Lynch, owner of the Torrance hotel building at the corner of Cabrillo ave. and Carson st., about the progress being made for removal of the old P. E. tracks on Cabrillo, City Engineer Glenn Jain asked the council to advertise for bids for the removal of the rail lines and overhead wiring. This was a dropped item. Councilman James Hitchcock suggested including bids for paving the center strip but Jain indicated that this should be a separate job.

Kall Breaks Silence

Continuing the policy of allowing no evening entertainment functions in the Civic Auditorium for the duration of the present emergency—because that building is the main casualty station—the reservation granted the local Theaterocracy group before Dec. 7, 1941, for a dance Feb. 28 was cancelled. Police Chief John Stroh reminded the council that no evening entertainments have been allowed in the Auditorium since the outbreak of war and that the building is a vital adjunct to the local Civilian Defense set-up.

The entire council was authorized to attend the mid-year meeting of the mayors and councilmen of California at Fresno Feb. 14 and 15 with all expenses paid. The officials were also invited to "bring a covered dish and table service" to the pot-luck dinner given by the Walthers Civic Organization last night when the Walthers Girl Scout troop received its new charter.

For the first time since he became a councilman on Sept. 16, 1941, Kenneth H. Kall volunteered an oral contribution to a session when he recommended that Howard P. Raymond be re-appointed to a five-year term on the Civil Service commission. This was approved and Raymond will continue to serve until Jan. 15, 1947. Kall's first words in a council session were received without comment.

Clerk Asks Help

The Civil Service board notified that the transfer of C. M. Gilbert from the street department to bus driver was contrary to regulations and was therefore "null and void." The matter was referred to the council as a whole for further consideration.

Several weeks ago the city board asked the county health officer for an opinion on covering the C. H. Quandt water tank.

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35 Huskies Taking Intensive Training Course Here

alternating the study and lecture meetings with actual field demonstrations like the one conducted last Saturday morning in El Prado Park. Another site for the instruction in use of equipment—both wet and dry—is at the city park.

Fire Chief J. E. McMaster also has a group of about 35 more Auxiliaries taking special training for operations in the Torrance oil field. This group, composed of oil field workers, owners of rigs and others allied with petroleum industries, is concentrating on fire prevention and safeguards in their particular field. Capt. Benner is also instructing this unit in the Civilian Defense set-up. Additional volunteers will be welcome if they report at central fire station any time.

As yet none of the men have received any personal equipment—they appear for the demonstrations in their work clothes and take their chances of soaking. (Continued on Page 4-A)